



2008 Xeriscape Contest Homeowner Category

**You put a lot of work into your home landscaping,
now is your chance to inspire others and become eligible to win great prizes
including installation of a rainwater harvesting system at your home!**

Tucson Botanical Gardens and ADWR are partnering to promote the use of native plants, water conservation and sustainable landscapes in Tucson. We want to increase awareness about how beautiful, affordable and easy care Xeriscape can be by recognizing and honoring people who have designed and implemented inspiring landscapes.

**You will receive a free 1-year membership to the Gardens and subscription to
Tucson Home Magazine, just for entering.**

**GRAND PRIZE WINNER: Host a party at the Gardens! Invite up to 100 friends and family for use of
SAHBA Pavilion and Xeriscape Garden Patios, a \$1,100 value! Restrictions apply and based on availability.**

Xeriscape Judging Criteria

- ◆ Incorporates water conserving design
- ◆ Demonstrates proper maintenance practices
- ◆ Shows use of low-water-use/drought-tolerant plants zoned by water use
- ◆ Employs soil improvements and use of mulches to retain moisture and reduce evaporation
- ◆ Has appropriate and efficient irrigation methods and water-efficient scheduling by plant type, site conditions and seasonal water needs
- ◆ Eliminates or reduces high-water-using turf or plants
- ◆ Incorporates rainwater-harvesting techniques

SPECIAL FEATURES THAT WILL BE CONSIDERED BY JUDGES

- ◆ Is planted with at least 75% native Sonoran and/or Chihuahuan Desert plants.
- ◆ Was designed to attract wildlife
- ◆ Is a revegetation of previously disturbed desert. (Provide before and after photos if available)
- ◆ Is a special treatment of a hillside of slope
- ◆ Is a retrofit of a high-water using landscape. Provide before and after photos, if available, and an estimate of water-use savings.
- ◆ Is designed to incorporate rainwater harvesting and/or graywater systems, use of mulch or other methods to reduce the use of groundwater for irrigation.

ELIGIBILITY: Any Xeriscape landscape in the greater Tucson Area that has been substantially designed and installed by the homeowner. **Plants should be large enough to show the design intent (reached a mature look) usually about 2 years old.** Due to time constraints, entries from outlying areas (e.g. Vail, Green Valley, Sahuarita) may be judged solely using photographs submitted with the application, rather than through a site visit.

HOMEOWNER'S NAME: _____ PHONE: _____
(as it would appear on award)

FAX: _____ EMAIL: _____

Please attach a map so the judges can find your home, Thanks

Date the Landscape was installed: _____

Indicate which areas are to be judged (e.g. front or back yard only, walkways, walls, water harvesting features, etc.)

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Submit a completed Entry Form and Judge's Form (fill in the information above Judge's Instructions) accompanied by a filing fee of \$10.00 by the **deadline of: Tuesday, April 1, 2008**. *The application form must be postmarked by April 1st or dropped off by 5 p.m. at the Tucson Botanical Gardens.* Please do not send cash. Make checks payable to: Tucson Botanical Gardens - 2008 Xeriscape Contest and mail to: Tucson Botanical Gardens; Xeriscape Contest; 2150 N. Alvernon Way; Tucson, AZ 85712. For questions call 326-9686 x 37
2. Each entry must submit at least 3 (no more than 8) digital photos on CD or 4" x 5" color prints showing your landscape. Photos of each entry will be viewed by judges prior to the site visit. Photos will not be returned;
3. If you would like your entry considered for a Water Conservation Award, you earn extra points for completing the Monthly Water-usage Worksheet (covers the past 12 months).
4. A street map marking the location of your home (e.g. Map Guide, or copy from Tucson Street Atlas) and write out clear directions to the site. Give us the easiest route please!
5. The portions of your property that have been entered in the contest must be accessible to the judges on judging day, tentatively scheduled for April 22, 2008. You will be notified to confirm the date and approximate time we will be there. Professional photographs of your landscape will be taken that day. Therefore, all plants should be sufficiently watered (e.g. not wilted), hardscape should be clean and planting areas well maintained.

AWARDS: Winning entries will be honored at a special ceremony in May at Tucson Botanical Gardens.

If you need more information on Xeriscape landscaping with native and low-water-use plants, or would like an ADWR low-water use/drought tolerant plant list, please call 770-3800 or visit our websites at:
www.azwater.gov/tama or www.tucsonbotanical.org